Infrastructure in B.B. Ambedkar University

1199. DR. (Ms.) P. SELVIE DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the subjects being taught and proposed to be taught in the B.B. Ambedkar University, Lucknow;

(b) whether the infrastructure existing in the University match with those required for the purpose; and

(c) if not, what steps are proposed to enhance the infrastructure to match with its requirement?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR: MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Ac-cording to the information furnished by the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, the following subjects are being taught:—

(1) Environmental Sciences

(2) Information Science

(3) Economics

(4) History

(5) Horticulture

(6) Sericulture

(7) Human Rights

(8) Computer Software Application

The University proposes to launch the following programmes:—

(1) Bio-Science

(2) Bio-Technology

(3) Home Science

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the University, the existing infrastructure does not adequately match with those required fo the purpose. The University has planned to enhance the infrastructure to match with its requirement in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Retirement benefit to Teachers of Navodaya Vidyalayas

1200. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Lack of retirement benefits force Navodaya teachers to quit en masse" appearing in the Times of India of 8th February, 1999; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction to the problems raised therein?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some Principals and Teachers of Navodaya Vidyalayas have left to join other schools due to a variety of reasons including lack of pension & Gratuity in Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti. Other reasons are hardships faced in education of their children especially Primary School children, location of the schools in remote areas and higher pay scales available in some States.

The introduction of Central Government Pension Scheme for employees of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has not been accepted by the Government. The Government has advised Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti to consider following alternative options:

(a) A suitable annuity scheme through Life Insurance Corporation based on voluntary contributions from employees without any liability on NVS/Government;

(b) Pension scheme for PF subscribers introduced by the Ministry of Labour;

(c) NVS continues to be governed by the CPF scheme.